

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 30th January 1892.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Ahmadí" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	600	13th January 1892.
2	"Kaliyuga" ...	Calcutta	....
3	"Kasipore Nivási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	280	
4	"Navamihir" ...	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
5	"Uluberia Darpan" ...	Uluberia ...	700	
Tri-monthly.				
6	"Hitakari" ...	Kushtea ...	800	
Weekly.				
7	"Bangavási" ...	Calcutta ...	20,000	23rd ditto.
8	"Banganivási" ...	Ditto ...	8,000	22nd ditto.
9	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	335	19th ditto.
10	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	400	18th ditto.
11	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca ...	2,200	24th ditto.
12	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	825	22nd ditto.
13	"Grámvási" ...	Ramkristopore, Howrah	1,000	25th ditto.
14	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	212	
15	"Hitavádí" ...	Calcutta ...	....	23rd ditto.
16	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore ...	....	15th and 22nd January 1882.
17	"Navayuga" ...	Calcutta ...	500	21st January 1882.
18	"Prakriti" ...	Ditto ...	....	23rd ditto.
19	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore ...	609	22nd ditto.
20	"Prithivi" ...	Calcutta ...	....
21	"Rungpur Dikprakásh" ...	Kakinia, Rungpur ...	....	14th ditto.
22	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta ...	800-1,000	20th ditto.
23	"Sahayogi" ...	Burrisal ...	342	16th ditto.
24	"Sakti" ...	Dacca ...	....
25	"Samáj-o-Sáhitya" ...	Garibpore, Nuddea ...	1,000	
26	"Samaya" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	22nd ditto.
27	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	4,000	23rd ditto.
28	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	....	8th and 15th January 1882.
29	"Sáraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	300	23rd January 1882.
30	"Som Prakásh" ...	Calcutta ...	600	25th ditto.
31	"Srimanta Sadagar" ...	Ditto ...	....
32	"Sudhákár" ...	Ditto ...	3,100	22nd ditto.
33	"Sulabh Samáchar" ...	Ditto ...	....
Daily.				
34	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Calcutta ...	500	21st ditto.
35	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	....
36	"Dainik-o-Samáchar Chandriká" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	24th to 28th January 1892.
37	"Samvád Prabhákár" ...	Ditto ...	1,500	22nd, 23rd, 25th to 28th January 1892.
38	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	
39	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto	22nd and 24th January 1882.

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ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
40	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
41	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Samāchār Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	50	
42	"Kshatriya Patrikā"	Patna	250	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta	750	13th January 1892.
44	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	500	7th and 21st January 1892.
45	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,200	7th and 21st ditto.
46	"Champarun Chandrika"	Bettiah	350	
47	"Desī Vyāpāri"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
48	"Hindi Bangavāsī"	Ditto ... ..	.....	18th and 25th ditto.
49	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	
50	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	4,500	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ... ..	.....
52	"Anis"	Patna ... ..	.....
53	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
54	"General and Gauhariāsfi"	Ditto ... ..	.....	11th and 18th ditto.
55	"Mehre Monawar"	Mozufferpore ... ..	.....
56	"Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad"	Murshidabad	150	
57	"Setare Hind"	Arrah ... ..	.....
58	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	340	8th, 16th and 22nd January 1892.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Asha"	Cuttack	165	
60	"Echo"	Ditto ... ..	.....
61	"Pradīp"	Ditto ... ..	.....
62	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ... ..	.....
63	"Taraka and Subhavārtā"	Ditto ... ..	.....
64	"Utkalprāna"	Mayurbhunj ... ..	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
65	"Dipaka"	Cuttack ... ..	.....
66	"Samvad Vāhika"	Balasore	200	
67	"Uriya and Navasamvād"	Ditto	420	
68	"Utkal Dipikā"	Cuttack	420	
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
69	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	480	
70	"Silchar"	Silchar	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
71	"Srihatta Mihir"	Sylhet	332	

II—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

Police reform and the Chittagong police.

The *Sansodhini*, of the 15th January, has the following on police reform:—

SANSODHINI,
Jan. 15th, 1892.

Many people say that better salaries in the Police Department will remove corruption therefrom. But all police officers with the exception of head-constables are well paid, and yet nobody will venture to say that they are wholly above corruption. The writer does not therefore suggest increased salary as a remedy for corruption in the police, but he will suggest a system of secret enquiry into the conduct of all police officers by their superiors—a system which he feels sure will check corruption and oppression. It is proposed to take the work of investigation altogether off the hands of head-constables. But that will cause great public inconvenience. Investigation of death from snake-bite or drowning ought to be left in the hands of head-constables.

The following changes are proposed in the police administration of the Chittagong district:—There are at present 13 thanas and 13 outposts in this district. Of these the Parki and Anra outposts ought to be amalgamated into a thana, and the Jaldi and Banskali beats and the Sitakund and Jorargunge outposts should also be similarly amalgamated and formed into two thanas. These changes will not cost Government anything more than its present annual expenditure. In each beat the salary of a head-constable costs Government Rs. 15 per month, and the salaries of six constables amount to Rs. 36 per month, thus making a total expenditure of Rs. 51 per month for each beat. The two beats named above thus cost Government Rs. 102 per month. If they are amalgamated and made into one thana, the salary of a sub-inspector will cost Rs. 30 per month, the salary of a head-constable Rs. 15, and the salaries of nine constables Rs. 54 per month, thus making a total of Rs. 99. The balance of Rs. 3 may be utilised in giving increments of salary to two constables. The thanas which will be thus created may be called second class thanas. There are three inspectors in this district, and so no inspector has more than nine thanas and beats under him. The inspectors should therefore be able to assist the lower officers in the work of investigation.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

2. The *Kasipore Nivasi*, of the 13th January, says that the charge of the treasury in Burrisal, which was so long in the hands of the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Upendra Chandra Majumdar, has been recently made over to Babu Gopal Chandra Mukherji, also a Deputy Magistrate, because the former is under great pressure of work. Treasury work always interferes with the court work of the Deputy Magistrates, and it is desirable that Government should make some arrangement for the performance of treasury work in a manner which will not interfere with court work.

KASIPORE NIVASI,
Jan. 13th, 1892.

3. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide*, of the 15th January, says that the District Judge of Bhagulpore, having written to the High Court for an Additional Sub-Judge at Monghyr, the High Court has proposed to abolish altogether the Sub-Judgeship of the place. The Monghyr Sub-Judgeship was created only five years ago, and the people of Monghyr and the surrounding places found it a source of great convenience to them. The heavy file of the Sub-Judge during the last five years is a strong argument in favour of the maintenance of the Sub-Judgeship. The writer would rather propose that a District Judge be stationed at Monghyr.

DARUSSALTANAT
AND URDU GUIDE,
Jan. 15th, 1892.

4. The *Sahayogi*, of the 15th January, complains that, in appointing amla and peons, the District Judge of Burrisal gives preference to outsiders who have passed University Examinations in utter disregard of the just claims of apprentices and persons already employed in the Court. Some of these latter are, to say nothing of ability, superior in point of education to men who have passed University Examinations.

SAHAYOGI,
Jan. 15th, 1892.

Appointments in the District Judge's Court, Burrisal.

SAHAYOGI,
Jan. 15th, 1892.

5. The same paper has heard that the Commissioner of the Dacca Division investigated the case of Ahamad Ali Mir *versus* Kaliprasanna Chakravarti at Burrisal, that is to say, at a place which is a day and a half's journey from the place of occurrence, and has reported to Government that the case is a got-up one. The writer does not know by what name to characterise such an investigation.

(c)—Jails.

SULABH DAINIK,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

6. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 22nd January, complains that the prisoners on the Civil and Criminal sides of the Presidency Jail are compelled to bathe and ease themselves

together, and are allowed only two minutes' time for each of these purposes. No one is allowed to ease himself at night or more than thrice in the day. If any one is obliged to do so at night, he has to do it on the plate off which he eats rice and to cleanse it the next day with his own hand. Such an odious arrangement does not perhaps obtain even in any of the 64 hells mentioned in the *Purans*. Do not these things reach the ears of the Lieutenant-Governor?

SARASWAT PATRA,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

7. The *Saraswat Patra*, of the 23rd January, does not think that there can be expected from the present Jail Conference any remedy for the evils existing in the jails and against

which the people often cry out. Consequently, it is not wise to expect much and then to be disappointed. It will be well if reduced expenditure does not produce new evils.

(d)—Education.

SANSODHINI,
Jan. 8th, 1892.

8. A correspondent of the *Sansodhini*, of the 8th January, says that frequent affrays are taking place between the boys of the Government School and those of the Higher English School in Chittagong. So far as the

correspondent has been able to make out, the students of the Government School are chiefly to blame for this. The head-masters of the schools ought to take prompt measures to put down these outbursts of ill-feeling among the student community of Chittagong, or there is no knowing where the matter will end if not promptly attended to.

CHARUVARTA,
Jan. 18th, 1892.

9. The *Charuvarta*, of the 18th January, deprecates the yearly change of text-books in the Schools and Colleges of Bengal. The practice causes great inconvenience to students.

The Central Text-Book Committee ought to order the same text-books to be used for four or five years.

SAMAY,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

10. The *Samay*, of the 22nd January, is glad to learn that the District Board of 24-Pergunnahs have applied to Government for permission to employ three Sub-Inspectors of Schools and a few inspecting pundits.

Sub-Inspectors of Schools under District Boards.

The writer, however, disapproves of the proposal of the Board to fix the minimum pay of Sub-Inspectors at Rs. 30 per mensem, and says that when the post of Sub-Inspector of Schools was first created during the Lieutenant-Governorship of Sir George Campbell, it was the duty of the Sub-Inspectors merely to inspect village pathsalas. But now they have to inspect even middle class English schools. It is the writer's belief that middle class English schools owe their present improved condition in a great measure to their inspection by Sub-Inspectors of Schools.

The Government of Lord Ripon, out of deference to the recommendation of the Education Commission, raised the minimum pay of Sub-Inspectors from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per mensem, and even now the lowest pay of a Government Sub-Inspector of Schools is Rs. 50 per mensem. Why should the Government then sanction the proposal of the District Board to fix the minimum pay of a Sub-Inspector of Schools at Rs. 30 per mensem? To do so would be not only to lower the status of the Sub-Inspectors in the service of the District Board, but also to diminish the chance of obtaining properly qualified men for the post.

The writer has heard that Sir Alfred Croft is rather careless in the disposal of appointments, and says that to appoint as Sub-Inspectors and Deputy Ins-

pectors of Schools men who have received a very imperfect education is calculated to do lasting injury to the department of education. But this state of things cannot last long. The writer believes that with Rs. 50 per mensem as the minimum pay, the District Board can, if it wisely exercises its choice, secure the services of properly qualified men.

The writer is afraid, however, that Sir Charles Elliott, who is always willing to reduce, if possible, the salaries of the higher native officials, may be disposed to accept the recommendation of the Board; but the writer has confidence in the sense of justice of the present Lieutenant-Governor, and thinks it unlikely that His Honour will sanction the injustice of paying Sub-Inspectors in the service of the District Boards on a reduced scale.

The writer then draws attention to the fact that the Circle Pundits, who are paid out of circle funds under the control of the Inspectors, are each of them placed in charge of three circle pathsalas. Under these circumstances, it is not possible for a pundit to devote more than two days in the week to each of the pathsalas placed under his care. The condition of most of the pathsalas is very unsatisfactory. The writer suggests that the services of the circle pundits should be placed at the disposal of the District Board, so as to do away with any necessity, on the part of the latter, of employing inspecting pundits, and that the money thereby saved to the District Board should be spent in employing Sub Inspectors on the same scale of pay as that which obtains in the case of Government Sub-Inspectors.

In conclusion, the writer says that this proposal of his will meet with considerable opposition from the Education Department, and therefore asks the Lieutenant-Governor in deciding the question to act without fear or favour.

11. The same paper publishes a letter reviewing *Bhismacharita*, by Babu Rajani Kanta Gupta, which has been adopted as a text-book for the minor and vernacular scholar-

A bad text book.

ship examinations of 1893-94.

The writer of the letter, who is the head pundit of a middle class English school, points out instances of grammatical solecism and want of euphony, and quotes passages from the work supporting his criticisms.

12. The *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd January, says that Sir Charles Elliott was greatly pleased by his late visit to the Calcutta

The Calcutta Medical School.

Medical School, and highly praised the work which is being done by it. But will His Honour remain content with bestowing only empty praises on the institution? The Lieutenant-Governor ought to make arrangements for granting the students who pass from the school certificates of proficiency equivalent to those which are given to the passed students of the Campbell Medical School. In point of ability the teachers in the Calcutta School are in no way inferior to those in the Campbell School.

13. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Kumarkhali in the Nuddea district, says that the local Entrance School

The Kumarkhali Entrance School, in the Nuddea district.

is an old institution as old as the Calcutta University itself. The school has been ever in a flourishing condition, but lately its Secretary has been managing its affairs in a most whimsical manner. The Inspector of Schools has been repeatedly urging him to invest the funds of the school either in Government securities, or as a deposit in the Savings Bank, but he has not done either of these things. Besides, he keeps all the books and records of the school in his own house and under his own lock and key, contrary to the rule requiring all such records to be kept in the school premises. The head-master, who is a most worthy teacher, is being most insolently treated by him. The school is maintained by Government aid, school-fees and public subscriptions. But the Secretary has been latterly dealing with it very much like his private property. The Inspector of Schools should take prompt measures to bring the Secretary to his senses, or the school will soon cease to exist.

14. The *Hindi Bangavasi*, of the 25th January, says that the names of Messrs. Tawney and Grierson have been proposed

Sir Alfred Croft's *locum tenens* in the office of Director of Public Instruction.

in connection with the office of Director of Public Instruction when Sir Alfred Croft goes on leave. The writer would prefer Mr. Grierson to Mr. Tawney, because the former is a good Hindi scholar.

SAMAY,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

SANJIVANI,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

SANJIVANI.

HINDI BANGAVASI,
Jan. 25th, 1892.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SAHACHAR,
Jan. 20th, 1892.

15. The *Sahachar*, of the 20th January, complains that the footpath along the whole of the Circular Road from Sealdah to Shambazar is in a most disgraceful condition. The Municipality have allowed heaps of rubbish and *khoa* to be accumulated on the footpath in question. And low class Hindustanis commit all manner of nuisance on the foot-path with apparently the connivance of the Municipal authorities.

SUDHAKAR,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

16. The *Sudhakar*, of the 22nd January, says that, since the introduction of Local Self-Government into the country, Government has made over the Road Cess funds to the District Boards to be used as they might think fit. But the District Boards are spending this fund in a most selfish and irresponsible manner. In fact, the working of the District Boards during the last few years has conclusively proved that the country is not yet ripe for self-government. The people are yet too selfish, weak-minded, and indifferent to public duty to have the privilege conferred upon them. The privilege has benefited the selfish Hindus alone. The Mahomedans, who form a considerable part of the population, have not derived the smallest benefit from it. It is true that a Mahomedan is met with in a District Board here and in a District Board there, but he is generally a puppet, who simply says 'aye' and "nay" with his Hindu fellow-members.

The Road cess collected from the people is generally spent in the construction and repair of roads which pass by the houses of members of the Boards or of their relatives and friends. The people pay the cess, but never receive any benefit for paying it.

SOM PRAKASH,
Jan. 25th, 1892.

17. The *Som Prakash*, of the 25th January, says that it was with the greatest difficulty that a majority of two could be secured in favour of the proposal to grant to Mr. Lee a monthly house allowance of Rs. 250. Such being the case, no weight should be attached to the resolution sanctioning the proposal.

(f)—*Questions affecting the land.*

SANSODHINI,
Jan. 13th, 1892.

18. The *Sansodhini*, of the 15th January, says that it has repeatedly urged on the Government, in connection with the *Cháp* survey which is going on in Chittagong, the necessity of putting in the survey marks of the year 1200 Maghi. In that year a general survey of the lands in Chittagong took place, and settlements were made with zemindars and tenure-holders. If the survey marks of the year 1200 Maghi are not noted, the present survey will be of little use either to the zemindar or to the ryot. During his late visit to Chittagong Sir Charles Elliott said that he would listen to everything which the people might have to say in connection with the survey. It is hoped, therefore, that His Honour will take into his consideration the necessity of putting the survey marks mentioned above.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

SAMAY
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

19. A correspondent of the *Samay*, of the 22nd January, says that there should be a railway station at the village of Shyampore in the newly-opened State Railway from Baligunge to Budge-Budge.

(h)—*General.*

KASIPORE NIVASI,
Jan. 13th, 1892.

20. Referring to the transfer of Assistant Surgeon Kunjalal Sannyal from Burrisal, the *Kasipore Nivási*, of the 13th January, says that a worthy doctor and gentleman like Babu Kunjalal will be greatly missed by the people of Burrisal.

KASIPORE NIVASI.

21. The same paper says that the Sub-Deputy Collector of Haridaspora in the Madaripore sub-division of the Furreedpore district has been appointed to be the Sub-Deputy Magistrate and Collector for Gopalgunge in the same sub-division. This is thought to be a step preliminary to the creation of a new sub-division at Gopalgunge. The want of such a sub-division has been long felt.

NAVAYUGA,
Jan. 21st, 1892.

22. The *Navayuga*, of the 21st January, says that the Lieutenant-Governor is very fond of novelty and change. From the very beginning of his administration he has been making changes. And quite recently a circular has been issued requiring all clerks in the Bengal Secretariat to wear uniform consisting of black *chapkan* and black *choga*. The very trifling advantage of uniformity in dress which will be gained by this measure will be outweighed by the disadvantage which will result to the clerks themselves from its enforcement. The clerks can hardly make the two ends meet, and an outlay on dress three or four times in the year will be a source of great inconvenience to them. And the clerks who will not often be able, for want of means, to change or renew their dress will be compelled to wear soiled and ragged clothing, an extremely uncomfortable thing for both the body and the mind.

The Dress Circular.

SAMAY,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

23. The *Samay*, of the 22nd January, says that Sir Charles Elliott has, in the course of a short time, obtained the reputation of being an abler ruler than many of his predecessors. The writer is, therefore, all the more surprised at the recent circular of the Bengal Government, requiring all native clerks to come to office decently dressed, that is, dressed in white or black trousers and black *chapkan* and *choga*. The order is to be enforced even in the case of clerks who are not in receipt of a salary exceeding Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 per month. The *Indian Mirror* very pertinently asks—Is this the upshot of the recent tour of the Lieutenant-Governor in Bengal, or was the order issued in order that poor clerks might hide their skeletons? The writer thinks that the income of many poor clerks is barely enough for their support, and does not certainly admit of their being richly well-dressed. The writer complains that the government of Sir Charles Elliott, far from helping the poor clerks in any way, contemplates the abolition of the system of progressive salaries and introducing fixed salaries.

The Dress Circular.

Surely it is extremely unreasonable to insist on a person appearing decently dressed no matter whether he has enough even to eat or not. Sir Charles Elliott will, the writer trusts, reconsider the matter.

BANGAVASI,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

24. The *Bangavasi*, of the 23rd January, says that it has not had an opportunity of comparing the revised Famine Code with the old one, and is, therefore, unable to say in what points the Code has been revised. The food allowance in the revised Code does not appear to be sufficient for those for whom it has been made. People who will get only food as their remuneration for work done will require to be fully fed if they are to continue to be able to work. Provision has also been made for giving relief to distressed families belonging to the respectable class. But the strictness of the rules under this head will make relief hard to be obtained. If the rules for famine relief contained in the Code are strictly carried into effect, a great deal of distress will, no doubt, be alleviated. But whoever has any experience of the matter knows that such rules are seldom, if ever, strictly followed. The money which is spent is always out of all proportion to the relief which distressed people receive.

The revised Famine Code.

PRAKRITI,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

25. The *Prakriti*, of the 23rd January, has heard that the Sub-Registrar of Diamond Harbour rejects documents as inadmissible without perusing them. The writer has received a long letter on the subject, and hopes that the Sub-Registrar will be more careful in future.

The Sub Registrar of Diamond Harbour.

SANJIVANI
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

26. The *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd January, says that the Government circular about the dress of its native clerks, &c., will entail great hardship on poorly-paid clerks. Instead of the expensive dress consisting of pantaloons, black *chapkan* and black *choga*, Government would have done well to suggest some less expensive costume.

The Dress Circular.

SANJIVANI

27. The same paper says that, in his rage for retrenchment, Sir Charles Elliott has ordered the discontinuance of goose-quills in the offices under the Bengal Government, except only in the case of high officials. This will make a saving not exceeding one thousand rupees per annum. Of course, Rs 1,000 is something. But this is not the way to effect any great retrenchment. Sir Charles Elliott will in a great measure help to bring about such a result, if he can set on foot an agitation for curtailing the salaries of the civilians and

Sir Charles Elliott's retrenchment policy.

checking the mania for sending out small punitive expeditions in season and out of season. Abolition of goose-quills in the public offices will indeed yield a saving of one thousand rupees, but a single Lushai Expedition will take out of the public exchequer a lakh of rupees directly and two lakhs indirectly.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 25th, 1892.

28. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 25th January, says that Sir Charles Elliott wants to retrench public expenditure by reducing the pay of the native officers of Government, though a vast saving can be easily

effected by reducing the salaries of the big European officials. The *Indian Mirror* has pointed out that the Chief Secretary to the North-Western Provinces' Government draws a salary of Rs. 36,000 per annum, while that of the Bengal Government gets Rs. 40,000 per annum. Two other Secretaries of the former Government get Rs. 27,000 and Rs. 22,000 respectively, while two other Secretaries of the Government of Bengal get Rs. 35,000 each. Only one Under-Secretary of the North-Western Provinces' Government gets Rs. 9,600, while no Under-Secretary in Bengal gets less than Rs. 12,000 per annum.

SOM PRAKASH
Jan. 25th, 1892.

29. The *Som Prakash*, of the 25th January, referring to the recommendation of the Simla Committee that, in making appointments to the public service, preference should be

The volunteering question.

given to volunteers and to the sons of volunteers, remarks that the object of this recommendation is nothing else than to exclude natives, who will never be admitted into the volunteer corps, from the public service. To adopt this recommendation would be to depart from the established practice of making appointments with sole reference to merit.

SOM PRAKASH

30. The same paper says that public business is likely to suffer greatly by the abolition of the graded system in the Bengal Secretariat, inasmuch as it will have a very disheartening effect on the lower officers, all whose

The graded system in the Bengal Secretariat.

hopes of increase of pay will be dashed to the ground. If the object of the Lieutenant-Governor in abolishing the system is to reduce expenditure, that object may be far better attained by a reduction of the pay of the officers receiving large salaries. It would be easy, in these days of widespread education, to get good men for small salaries.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Jan. 27th, 1892.

31. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 27th January, says that the authorities in England do not like to award medals to the officers and troops who served in the Manipur

The question of Manipur Medals.

Expedition. If there had been no scene enacted in the Manipur drama which the British Government could repent of, there would have been no harm in awarding Manipur medals. Anglo-Indian journals like the *Englishman*, which insist on the Government's awarding Manipur medals, will only deepen the stain on the British character if they have their way in this matter.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

32. The same paper says that at the advice of Mr. Risley, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, the Lieutenant-Governor has proposed to abolish the graded system. Henceforward no clerk will receive any yearly increment. The graded system was introduced by past Lieutenant-Governors after careful consideration. But as soon as

The proposed abolition of the graded system in the Public Service.

Sir Charles Elliott took the reins of Government in his hands he resolved to strike a blow at the old system. But is it desirable on the part of His Honour to abolish it? Who can say that future Lieutenant-Governors will not reverse his arrangement! They who can abolish old systems and introduce new ones in a moment's time may be taken to be very bold men, but they cannot be given credit for keen foresight. In many things Sir Charles Elliott is floundering in a vortex of error. Both Sir Stuart Bayley and Sir Ashley Eden were of opinion that the less the changes that a Lieutenant-Governor introduces in the administration of Bengal, the abler he proves himself. Sir Charles Elliott will have to suffer for his errors.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SOM PRAKASH,
Jan. 25th, 1892.

33. The *Som Prakash*, of the 25th January, says that if Government wants to appoint a Pleader to fill the vacancy in the Bengal Legislative Council, everybody will be glad to see Dr. Trailokyanath Mitter appointed, but if

The vacancy in the Bengal Council.

it is considered desirable to appoint a retired Deputy Magistrate to the vacancy, the appointment of Babu Bunkim Chunder Chatterji, who is as much independent as he is distinguished, will give the greatest satisfaction. But it is a matter of regret that Government has always appointed Calcutta men by birth or residence as members of the Bengal Council in preference to able men living in the mofussil. Residents of the town, enjoying the advantages of spacious roads, gas light and pipe-water, can hardly have any accurate knowledge or idea of the state of things in the mofussil. Government will therefore do well this time to appoint Babu Surendranath Pal Chowdhury of Ranaghat to the vacancy in the Bengal Council. The Babu is a man of education, as well as gentle and amiable in disposition. In recognition of these good qualities, both Lord Ripon and Sir Rivers Thompson were guests in his house when they visited Ranaghat.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

34. Referring to the state and prospects of the crops in the Burdwan district, the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 19th January, says that the winter crop in the district is not expected to yield more than a four-anna outturn. The writer complains of the large export of food-grains from the district, and says that if this goes on unchecked it is likely to lead to considerable distress among the people. The writer therefore asks the Government to adopt measures in order to prevent that part of the produce which the people will require for their own consumption from being taken away.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Jan. 19th, 1892.

If the proposal is considered as one which is opposed to the principles of free trade, Government might at any rate give effect to the suggestion which has been made in the columns of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, to the effect that the Government should now buy up and store large quantities of rice in the various thanas, and should afterwards dispose of them to the people according to their requirements.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

35. The *Kasipore Nivasi*, of the 13th January, says that Government ought to reward Babu Dwaraka Nath Datta, Chairman of the Burrisal Municipality, for the pains he has taken to improve the condition of the city, and also Babus Aswini Kumar Datta M.A., B.L., and Bihari Lal Choudhuri, zemindar of Lakhutia, for their efforts in the cause of education in this district.

KASIPORE NIVASI,
Jan. 13th, 1892.

The death of Prince Albert Victor.

36. The *Charuvarta*, of the 18th January, contains columns in black borders announcing and deeply lamenting the death of Prince Albert Victor.

CHARUVARTA,
Jan. 18th, 1892.

37. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 19th January, appears in black on account of the death of Prince Albert Victor, and says:—

BURDWAN SANJIVA I,
Jan. 19th, 1892.

When the sad intelligence reached this country the whole nation was plunged into sudden and overwhelming grief.

O Mother! Queen Empress! Your loyal Indian people are now overwhelmed with sorrow on your account. Can the people who only the other day were rejoicing on the occasion of the Prince's visit, who looked forward with pleasure to the prospect of having him as their ruler, who were charmed with his manners, readily believe that the Prince is no longer in the land of the living? The shock is really too great and heavy for people whose loyalty has always been proverbial. One long and deep wail of sorrow has gone up from the entire nation from one end of the country to another. O Mother! Queen Empress! Compose yourself and bring consolation to the hearts of your loyal subjects stricken with sorrow on your account. The nation share in your joys and sympathise with you in your sorrows. Providence has appointed you to preside over our destinies. It, therefore, breaks our hearts to find you in sorrow. What dutiful son can bear the sight of a mother in distress?

O Mother! compose your own feelings and console your subjects.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Jan. 19th, 1892.

The Lieutenant-Governor's visit
to Burdwan.

38. Referring to the approaching visit of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to Burdwan, the same paper says that the present will be a fitting opportunity for the people of Burdwan to come forward and lay their grievances before His Honour. The Lieutenant-Governor should not know the bright side of the picture only, but should likewise be made acquainted with the wants and grievances of the people. The writer then draws attention to the defective drainage arrangements in the town of Burdwan, in consequence of which the public suffer great inconvenience in the rainy season, and to which the general prevalence of sickness in the town in that season is in a great measure to be attributed. The condition of the drains is such as to call for speedy measures for their improvement.

With reference to the latrine-tax, the writer thinks that the Commissioners have acted wisely in exempting certain places within the jurisdiction of the municipality from the payment of the tax.

It is, however, pointed out that in several of the places in which the tax has been imposed the people, who are mostly day-labourers and cultivators, are unable to keep a latrine in their houses, and should, therefore, be exempted.

The writer then draws the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor, who has been known to take considerable interest in the moral improvement of the youths of Bengal, to the existence of a very serious evil, viz., the fact that women of ill-fame are allowed to live and ply their hateful avocation in the respectable quarters of the town. These women have been known in various ways to lead many young men to paths of evil and finally to accomplish their ruin.

The writer suggests that these women should be segregated, and that the present law which does not give the municipality power to order their removal should be altered.

The abolition of the outstill system by Government was a great blessing to the people, but it is also its duty to put an end to the state of things under which it is possible for women of ill-fame to carry on their nefarious trade in broad daylight and in respectable quarters of the town.

SAHACHAR,
Jan. 20th, 1892.

Death of Prince Albert Victor.

Albert Victor, and says—

The sad news has plunged the whole nation into the profoundest grief.

The women of this country sympathise deeply with the unfortunate Mary of Teck. Royal marriages are not always attended with conjugal happiness, but there was real love between Mary and Prince Victor. Mary was in constant attendance on the Prince during his illness. But all her hopes were destined to be dashed to the ground. Relentless death spares neither age nor rank, nor sex; his work of destruction is altogether beyond human comprehension. The whole country is in mourning. The ways of Providence are, indeed, inscrutable. No one can withstand the decree of the Almighty. But there is one consolation that all British subjects are condoling with the Royal Family in their bereavement.

SAHACHAR.

40. The same paper has a long article on General Booth's scheme of colonisation in Australia for poor Indians, in the course of which the writer says that the General had lately an interview with the Viceroy on the subject.

Lord Lansdowne has promised to give the subject early consideration. The Australians, however, do not like the idea of the Chinese emigrating to their country. The selfishness of European nations reminds the writer of the fable of the dog in the manger. The Chinese labourers are industrious and prudent, and can, therefore, afford to work for lower wages than the Americans. The American Government has accordingly made a law prohibiting Chinese immigration into their country. The European colonists of Natal look upon the Indian settlers as their enemies. As soon as the Indian tries to be something better than a coolie he becomes the object of the European's jealousy and hatred. The reason why the Indian settlers of Natal are regarded with disfavour is, that many of them have prospered very well, have become planters, shop-keepers and merchants, and are under-selling European tradesmen. The

Indian immigration to Australia.

39. The *Sahachar*, of the 20th January, appears in black on account of the death of Prince

European, in short, does not wish well to any one except his own people. The European code of morality too makes a fundamental difference between the Eastern and Western nations. The French statesman, M. Ferry, declared that in dealing with the Asiatics it was not necessary to act according to the Ten Commandments.

A few Afghans and Panjabis having settled in Australia, the authorities there have thought fit to write to the Indian Government that the Australians do not like those petty tradesmen. The writer, therefore, doubts very much whether General Booth's scheme will be of any practical benefit to the Indian people.

An eminent Australian official is shortly expected to be in India for the purpose of collecting a supply of Indian labourers for Australia.

The Indians who originally went to the British colonies of Jamaica and Demerara as coolies have many of them become permanent residents there. The children of these settlers have been educated and have become, to all intents and purposes, gentlemen. Now, the European colonists had no objection to the presence of Indians in the colonies as coolies. But the case became different as soon as Indians aspired to a position higher than that of coolies. The reason why English officials in India so much dislike the Bengalis is that the Bengalis are seeking to obtain higher political privileges, and are inciting the people of other parts of the country to do the same. The Indian Government should not therefore send Indian labourers to Australia if a similar feeling should be found to exist among the Australians.

The writer concludes as follows :—

To seek to improve one's position is the desire not only of Indians, but also of other civilised peoples. But the selfish European nations wish that all except themselves, who are now coolies, should always remain coolies, that it is enough for them to earn something in the shape of wages, and that the land should belong to Europeans alone. In Australia the land is very fertile and yields in abundance rice and other food-grains, grapes and tobacco.

It would indeed be desirable for our countrymen to emigrate to Australia, if ample security is afforded them against oppression and ill-treatment, if they are allowed to be proprietors of land, and be otherwise treated on terms of equality with the European colonists.

41. The *Navayuga*, of the 21st January, has the following :—The death of Prince Albert Victor has broken the heart of his would-be spouse, drowned his parents in grief, and struck down his aged grandmother. His unexpected death has opened a flood-gate of sorrow in England, in India, in every British possession, nay, all the wide world over. We pray to Him, who is the refuge of the afflicted, to console the sorrow-stricken Royal Family.

NAVAYUGA,
Jan. 21st, 1892.

42. The same paper says that the closer the union between the rulers and ruled, the better for the country. Whatever errors Sir Charles Elliott may have fallen into, he is showing every day greater and greater eagerness to establish friendly relations with the people. During his late tour in the mofussil, His Honour freely mixed with the people, and enquired about their grievances. He is also mixing with the students in a way in which no Lieutenant-Governor mixed with them before. Some time ago he took certain college students for a river trip. And the other day he invited certain college students to Belvedere, where he freely mixed with them. It is needless to say that refreshment was provided for the students. The writer cannot help praising the Lieutenant-Governor for this.

NAVAYUGA,

43. The same paper has the following and other charges against the Dewan of the Bhawal estate in the Dacca district :—

NAVAYUGA,

- (1) Since his appointment as Dewan, he has not allowed the Raja to look after the affairs of the estate, and the Raja lives for a considerable portion of the year at Darjeeling.
- (2) He lives for eight months in the year at Dacca instead of at Jayadevpore, the capital of the estate.

(3) Under his management the condition of the estate has become very deplorable, and the Raja's debts have increased in spite of his large income.

(4) In no other estate in Dacca is litigation so extensive as in the Bhawal estate.

(5) He does not like to employ English-knowing men in the service of the Raja.

(6) During his management the Entrance School at Jayadevpore has been abolished.

(7) He has increased party-spirit in Dacca by forming a party of his own with the help of his great friend, Ananda Chandra Ray.

The writer would also like to know why Mahesh Chandra, the son-in-law of Golak Chandra, is now wandering about as a lunatic.

44. The *Pratihar*, of the 22nd January, in columns with black border, has the following:—

Death of Prince Albert Victor.

The whole of India wears a melancholy look at the death of Prince Albert Victor, and the Queen and the Royal family are overwhelmed with sorrow. The sad news of the Prince's death has greatly grieved the writer.

45. The same paper says that the Viceroy and party will go to Cooch Behar on a shooting excursion, and His Excellency will stay there for more than a week. The Maharaja

of Cooch Behar will have to entertain the Viceroy. But it is said that the financial condition of Cooch Behar is not very satisfactory, and it is feared that this Viceregal visit may prove dangerous to the weak State. To see the Viceroy is good fortune in itself, and it is good fortune beyond conception to have him for a guest. But it is well after all to take care of Number One.

46. The same paper says that all the clerks under the Bengal Government will have to wear the uniform prescribed by the Lieutenant-Governor. The police has its uniform.

Why not then the other departments? One may decorate one's own son in any dress he likes, and no one can object to it. For the expense of the son's dress is borne by the father instead of the son. But poorly-paid clerks will not easily be able to carry out His Honour's order. They will have to pinch themselves in the matter of food in order to do this. It will be, in a way, murdering the poor clerks if the authorities make light of expenditure which may be trifling to men with their income, but which is certainly very heavy for poor clerks.

47. A correspondent of the *Samay*, of the 22nd January, complains that, owing to the greater portion of the Darjeeling district being under tea cultivation, the cultivators cannot obtain enough land for the growth of paddy, barley, wheat, potato and other crops.

The correspondent also draws attention to the fact that the rigorous enforcement of the forest laws in that district is calculated to cause serious hardship to the poorer classes of the people, especially with reference to the necessity of keeping in stock large supplies of fuel as a provision for the winter months. The correspondent believes that the Forest Department serves no other useful purpose than maintaining a few highly-paid English officials. In conclusion, the correspondent denies that tea has any nourishing properties whatever, or is anything more than a mere stimulant, and deprecates the extension of tea cultivation in this country as tending to benefit the few (English capitalists) at the expense of the many (the agricultural community of the country).

48. The *Banganivasi*, of the 22nd January, gives a picture of the late Prince Albert Victor, and says:—

Breaking asunder the tie of true and strong affection subsisting between himself and his old grandmother, leaving vacant the lap of his most worshipful mother, and plunging his would-be wife, dearer to him than life itself, into a boundless sea of sorrow, the Prince has passed away into eternity. Alas! for what fault, hast thou, O! Dispenser of good and evil, cruelly hurled this thunder-bolt upon the British Empire? For what sin, by them committed, have the innocent subjects of that Empire to-day lost their would-be Sovereign? By the

PRAKRITI,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

PRATIKAR.

PRATIKAR.

SAMAY,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

BANGANIVASI,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

decree of fate, and as the ill-luck of the Prince's kinsmen and relations would have it, he has fallen into the jaws of death just at the moment when they and his subjects were rejoicing at the prospects of his ascending the throne, and when he was on the eve of being wedded to a dearly beloved girl. All hope has now vanished. The ties and attractions of this world have failed to keep him here. In a moment he has been buried under the lifeless earth.

49. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 22nd January, says that the Lieutenant-Governor's control has now extended to the dress of the clerks. He has required all employés in the

The Dress Circular.

offices under him, from common mohurirs to Head Assistants, to wear *choga* and *chapkan*. Clerks receiving salaries of Rs. 10, Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 can hardly support themselves, and they will have now to part with their domestic utensils in order to provide themselves with the prescribed uniform.

50. The *Sudhakar*, of the 22nd January, has the following on the death of Prince Albert Victor:—

The Indians have become extremely sorry at the death of Her Majesty's grandson. All England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales is to-day in the gloom of grief. The news has been communicated by wire throughout Europe, America, Asia and Australia, and everywhere people are giving vent to their sorrow. The English are a fortunate nation on the earth, and he who was to have been their King would have been one of the most fortunate of men if he had lived to be their King. It is no wonder therefore that the whole world should be agitated with grief at his death.

The death of Prince Albert Victor.

51. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 22nd January, appears in black border for the death of Prince Albert Victor.

MURSHIDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
Jan. 22nd, 1892.

52. Referring to the

The Calcutta students at Belvedere.

garden party recently given by the Lieutenant-Governor to the students of the Calcutta colleges, the *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd January, says that the invited students were highly pleased with the affectionate reception given them by Sir Charles and Lady Elliott. Sir Charles is the first Lieutenant-Governor who has freely mixed with the student community of the country.

SANJIVANI
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

53. A correspondent of the same paper writing from Furreedpore says

Drunkenness on the increase.

that drunkards are fast increasing among the educated community. It is a sorry sight, indeed,

that the educated men who ought to consider it their duty to dissuade their uneducated countrymen from wicked ways are themselves inducing the latter to take to intemperate habits. These people can be sometimes seen appearing in grog-shops at midnight in a perfectly naked condition. The correspondent is sorry to notice in this class Deputy Magistrates and other high public officers here and there. It is to be hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor will try to remedy the evil.

SANJIVANI.

Death of Prince Albert Victor.

54. The *Hitavadi*, of the 23rd January, appears in black on account of the death of Prince Albert

HITAVADI,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

Victor, and says:—

The news of the untimely death of Prince Albert Victor has plunged the entire British Empire, nay, the whole civilised world, into sudden and overwhelming grief. When the sad intelligence was conveyed to the different parts of the world, the sun seemed suddenly to sink below the horizon enveloping the universe in darkness, while nothing but a loud and prolonged wail of sorrow could be heard anywhere.

Nobody knew who wept and who did not—the wail of grief was so universal. Before the heart-rending news arrived, vast preparations were in progress, and everyone was on the tip-toe of expectation for the approaching marriage festivities, when, lo, the cry was sounded in men's ears "Prince Victor is no more." With it the curtain fell over the scene of rejoicing; and actors and spectators returned to their respective homes, their eyes bathed in tears and their faces bespeaking the piercing grief within their hearts.

55. The *Saraswat Patra*, of the 23rd January, in columns with black border, says that the loss sustained by the death of Prince Albert Victor will never be made up. The wound

Death of Prince Albert Victor.

SARASWAT PATRA,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

received will never heal up. The Almighty Father is the only refuge man can fly to in such distress. The writer prays that God may send consolation into the sorrow-stricken hearts of the grandmother, of the parents, and of the young Princess Mary of Teck, who was about to become wife of the deceased prince.

SARASWAT PATRA,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

56. The same paper says that many of the acts of the present Lieutenant-Governor have given satisfaction to the people. His Honour is fond of mixing freely with college students—a piece of good fortune which never before fell to their lot. The other day His Honour entertained at his palace the students of the 4th year class of the City College. In food, in customs, in nationality, the rulers and the ruled may differ very much from each other; yet if the rulers look upon the ruled with a lenient eye and follow His Honour's example in the matter of mixing with them, fear, on the one side, and hatred, on the other, will gradually die out, and in place of fear there will be found devoted attachment, and in place of hatred, sweet affection.

PRAKRITI,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

57. The *Prakriti*, of the 23rd January, is sorry to learn that, notwithstanding the orders of the Government to the contrary, in certain departments of the post-office and in several sub-post-offices business went on as usual on Wednesday, the 20th January.

The writer says that the day ought to have been observed as a close holiday, and hopes that the Government will make an enquiry into the matter. As regards the European non-official community, the loyal European merchants and tradesmen, who are ready to look down upon the natives as disloyal, the writer has heard that the well known firm of Messrs. Ralli Brothers did not close their offices on the day. Messrs. Ralli Brothers ought to have known that even the book-shops of Chitpore road were closed on the occasion.

PRAKRITI.

58. Referring to the efforts made in European countries to relieve the famine-stricken people of Russia, the same paper asks whether it is not the duty of Great Britain now to come forward to save millions of Indian people from starvation—Great Britain, which owes her prosperity and her present position among European countries, in no small measure to her Indian Empire.

The writer says that it is a matter of great regret that England is unwilling to help the Indian people in the hour of danger: the people, who even when reduced to the last extremity of poverty, have not failed to bring money to her coffers.

The writer then quotes with approval a paragraph from the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper, and says that comments on the same are superfluous.

BANGAVASI,
Jan. 23rd, 1892.

59. The *Bangavasi*, of the 23rd January, says that famine is raging fiercely in Russia. In this crisis, America thought of sending flour to Russia, but has since changed her mind. In England some big people are forming societies for giving succour to the famine-stricken Russians. But the English people never take any notice of famines in India. Their sympathy with Russia is, however, gratifying to the Indians, who see in it a proof that Englishmen have hearts. The Indians also feel really happy to hear anything good said of the people who are their rulers.

BANGAVASI.

60. The same paper has the following:—

It is too cruel news to be borne. When we communicated it we were in the first gush of our grief. But a week has since passed away and our sorrow has known no mitigation. It breaks the heart to recollect that fatal occurrence. The dear Eddie of our mother Empress is no more. The life-breath has passed out of his body. Alas! that graceful, aye, beautiful and beloved figure of his, grateful alike to the eye and to the mind, that affection's idol has fallen within the terrible jaws of death. And what an untimely death! Ah, Prince Albert Victor has left this world; the would-be Emperor of India is no more! Marriage preparations have given place to funeral ceremonies. Just conceive, if you can, what mental agony is being suffered by that old, widowed, grandmother of his, Empress Victoria. Conceive, if you can, the mental condition of that most affectionate father of his, the Prince of Wales. And, alas! conceive, if you can, the feelings of that most unfortunate of mothers, the Princess of Wales, whose first born, the first

fruit of her wedded love, the chiefest and maturest fruit of her marriage with the Prince of Wales, the object of all the tender feelings of her heart, the token of her first love, her dearest treasure on earth, the brightest light in the centre of all her earthly hopes, and the son of hers who would have been the fittest successor to his father on the throne, has thus been untimely carried off from this world, aye, carried off from amidst his nuptial rejoicings! And, oh! conceive once more, if you can, the sorest agony of that simple-hearted girl, who gave her heart to the Prince, and all the hopes of whose tender heart, hopes of future happiness, hinged on the life of her betrothed. What, indeed, must be the affection of that tender-aged Princess "May," pure as the new dew-drop, beautiful even as the dew-drop or the Parijat flower, who from her very infancy centred all her love in Eddie, and devoted all the efforts of her tender heart to making Eddie happy, and who had, indeed, no life apart from that of Eddie! Such grief can only be imagined; it passes description.

Reader! do you not know who this Prince Victor, that dear Eddie, was? But why should you not know him? It was only a matter of yesterday, and who does not remember it? Don't you remember that he came to India only two years ago in order to see you and to let himself be seen by you? Don't you remember that graceful and handsome form, that frank and valiant face, which the whole country was eager to get a glimpse of, and at the sight of which everybody was delighted? Why should you not remember him, at whose auspicious visit to India the whole country from one end to the other rang with joy, and for whose welcome there was sumptuous festivity in the country for days together? His memory is still fresh in the minds of the people of India. He is, in fact, still perfectly alive in the memory, in the loyalty, and in the love of the Indian people. But, alas, he is no more on this earth!

Sorrow has cast its gloom on the whole world, and all the world is bleeding as if all its arteries have been opened. The Sovereign and the subject alike are mourning the loss of the Prince. Europe, America, and India are cast down in sorrow, dejected and paralysed.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 30th January 1892.

